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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/762,834	01/21/2004	Georg C. Becker	6570P059	5865

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EXAMINER

PERUNGAVOOR, VENKATANARAY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2132

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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11/21/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/762,834

Applicant(s)

BECKER ET AL.

Examiner

Venkat Perungavoor

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 10/5/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Applicant seasonably argues Claim 1,31,36 and 39; Claim 18 and Claim 30. The Examiner will rebut each here.

Regarding Claim 1, 31, 36 and 39, the Applicant argues that Dessiatnikov fails to disclose the obtaining requested connection information from a secure storage file in a file system.

Dessiatnikov discloses the connection string being stored in a number of locations including a configuration file, COM+ catalog and registry see § Security through obscurity & § Configuration files. Where the configuration file satisfies the recitation, as configuration file is a secure file that is located amongst a number of other files(i.e. file system) needed to setup the connection.

Regarding Claim 18, the Applicant argues that a central directory storing a value string is not present in Dessiatnikov.

Dessiatnikov discloses the storing of connection string in files, registries, source code and further encrypting the string information see § Security through obscurity & § Encrypting data.

Regarding Claim 30, the Applicant alleges that no rejection has been made. The Applicant is asked to consult the Non-Final action dated 7/9/2007 again, as the rejection under 35 USC § 103 as unpatentable over Dessiatnikov in view of US Patent 2003/0105977 to Brabson has been made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1-29, 31-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by NPL1 to Dessiatnikov.

Regarding Claim 1, 36, 39, Dessiatnikov discloses the requesting connection information server to another node see § Introduction Par. 1; accessing a key phrase to decrypt the requested connection information to request connection information see § Encrypting data Par. 3; obtaining the requested connection information from secure storage file see § Storage of connection strings.

Regarding Claim 2, 26, 40, Dessiatnikov discloses the accessing key phrase from a file system of server see § Control access to data Par. 2.

Regarding Claim 3-4, 27, 32, 37, 41, Dessiatnikov discloses the accessing key phrase from a central directory of a distributed system see § Configuration files Par. 5 (“ The ASP.NET...”).

Regarding Claim 5, 42, Dessiatnikov discloses the prompting for input to the application server see § SQL Authentication vs. Windows Authentication Par. 2 & Par. 3.

Regarding Claim 6, 19, 33, 38, Dessiatnikov discloses the requesting of database connection see § Connection String Properties - Table.

Regarding Claim 7, 25, 34, 43, Dessiatnikov discloses the password and address of database see § Connection String Properties – Table & § SQL Authentication vs. Windows Authentication Par. 2.

Regarding Claim 8, 35, Dessiatnikov discloses the Uniform Resource Locator see § COM+ catalog.

Regarding Claim 9, Dessiatnikov discloses the system requesting the connection information see § Connection String Properties – Table.

Regarding Claim 10, 24, Dessiatnikov discloses the user and machine specific key to be used see § Encrypting data Par. 4.

Regarding Claim 11, Dessiatnikov discloses the decrypting of obtained connection information see § Encrypting data Par. 4.

¹ Dessiatnikov, Dmitry. "Securing SQL Connection String" SANS Institute 2004 8 Jan 2004.

Regarding Claim 12, 29, Dessiatnikov discloses the triple DES being used for encrypting of connection information see § Encrypting data Par. 3.

Regarding Claim 13, Dessiatnikov discloses the java string see § Introduction Par. 2.

Regarding Claim 14-15, Dessiatnikov discloses the automatically requesting a connection to a database and initialization of server see § Introduction Par. 1 & § SQL Authentication vs. Windows Authentication Par. 1.

Regarding Claim 16-17, 22-23, Dessiatnikov discloses the server and J2EE standard see § Additional measures Par 5 & § Encrypting data Par. 5.

Regarding Claim 18, Dessiatnikov discloses the application server to access key phrase in response to request to connect see § Introduction Par. 1 & § SQL Authentication vs. Windows Authentication Par. 1; central repository to store value string and to provide the value string to server upon receiving key phrase see § Storage of connection strings; node to provide requested data to server see § Configuration files Par 3.

Regarding Claim 20-21, Dessiatnikov discloses the SQL database see § Abstract.

Regarding Claim 28, Dessiatnikov discloses the encrypting of data see § Encrypting data.

Regarding Claim 31, Dessiatnikov discloses the network interface to connect to node see § SQL Authentication vs. Windows Authentication; the requesting connection information server to another node see § Introduction Par. 1; accessing a key phrase to decrypt the requested connection information to request connection information see § Encrypting data Par. 3; obtaining the requested connection information from secure storage file see § Storage of connection strings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over NPL to Dessiatnikov in view of US Patent 2003/0105977 to Brabson et al.(hereinafter Brabson).

Regarding Claim 30, Dessiatnikov does not disclose the directory transitioning from unencrypted to storing encrypted data. However, Brabson disclose the directory transitioning from unencrypted to storing encrypted data see Fig. 10 item 1025 & 1030. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the directory transitioning from unencrypted to storing encrypted data in the invention of Dessiatnikov in order to use readily available resource as taught in Brabson see Fig. 10 item 1030 & Par. 0009.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Venkat Perungavoor whose telephone number is 571-272-7213. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

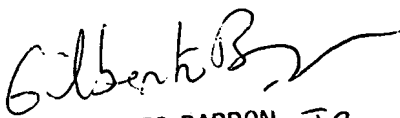
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like

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assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/VP/
Venkat Perungavoor
Examiner
Art Unit 2132
November 19, 2007


GILBERTO BARRON JR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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